

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 00441 190038Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /013 W
-----050727 190042Z /65

R 181838Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8791

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 441

STADIS//////////

EA/K ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, KS
SUBJ: F-16'S FOR KOREA

REF: STATE 10805

EMBASSY HAS NOTED REFERENCE TO F-16 CONSENSUS IN PARA 4 OF REFTEL AND WE ASSUME THAT REASON FOR DELAYING DECISION ON F-16 LOA REQUEST IS CONSTRAINT IMPOSED BY MILITARY ASSISTANCE CEILING. IF THIS IS THE CASE, EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT RATHER THAN POSTPONING DECISION ON LOA, US, WHOULD TELL KOREANS THAT CEILING MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR US TO APPROVE FUNDING FOR F-16 UNTIL NEXT YAR BUT THAT TRANSFER HAS BEEN APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE AND THAT DELAY OF ONE YEAR IN APPROVAL OF LOA WILL NOT HAVE ADVERSE AFFECT ON DELIVERY DATE OR PRICE OF F-16'S.

2. WE BELIEVE THAT KOREANS ARE SUFFICIENTLY FAMILIAR WITH OUR MILITARY ASSISTANCE CONSTRAINTS TO UNDERSTAND AND RELUCTANTLY ACCEPT EXPLANATION COUCHED IN THESE TERMS, AND IT IS OUR VIEW THAT THIS PROCEDURE SHOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO INTERAGENCY COMMUNITY. TO LEAVE THIS ISSUE HANGING IN LIMBO FOR ANOTHER YEAR PENDING FURTHER REVIEW AT THAT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SEOUL 00441 190038Z

TIME FOR WHATEVER REASON, WOULD NOT BE UNDERSTOOD IN PRESENT ATMOSHPERE IN KOREA AND COULD IN ADDITION LEAD THEM TO RECONSIDER THEIR PRESENT POLICY OF DEPENDIENCE ON THE US FOR SOPHISTICATED MILITARY AIRCRAFT.

3. EMBASSY ALSO BELIEVES THAT BY UNDERMINING THE RELIABILITY OF OUR COMMITMENTS IN ONE AREA, SUCH AS THE

PROVISION OF A JET FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, WE INEVITABLY INDUCE
DOUBTS ABOUT OUR RELIABILITY IN OTHER AREAS AS WELL.
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE HAS GIVEN THE ROKG HIS ASSURANCES.
THIS IS NOT THE TIME TO BEGIN CREATING DOUBTS.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: APPROVAL OF PROCEDURE OUTLINED
PARAGRAPH 1 ABOVE.
SNEIDER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SEOUL00441
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780027-1129
Format: TEL
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780149/aaaabpkj.tel
Line Count: 70
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: eafc3be2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY, STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY, STADIS
Reference: 78 STATE 10805
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3753574
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: F-16\ S FOR KOREA
TAGS: MASS, KS
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/eafc3be2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014